



**CITY OF DURHAM**  
Office of Public Affairs  
101 CITY HALL PLAZA  
DURHAM, NC 27701

## News Release

### News Media Contact:

Amy Blalock  
Sr. Public Affairs Specialist  
(919) 560-4123 x 11253  
(919) 475-7735 (cell)  
[Amy.Blalock@DurhamNC.gov](mailto:Amy.Blalock@DurhamNC.gov)  
<http://Facebook.com/CityofDurhamNC>  
<http://Twitter.com/CityofDurhamNC>  
<http://YouTube.com/CityofDurhamNC>

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## **Durham Seeks Volunteers and Donations for 2015 Project Homeless Connect**

*Volunteer Registrations and Supply Donations Needed by September 25<sup>th</sup>*

DURHAM, N.C. – With the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Project Homeless Connect just around the corner, event organizers are seeking volunteers and donations to help meet the increased needs in the Durham community.

This year's event will be held on Friday, October 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Durham Bulls Athletic Park, located at 409 Blackwell St. Project Homeless Connect is a one-day, one-stop event to provide people experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, homelessness with a broad range of services including housing, employment, health and dental care, mental health care, veterans' and social service benefits, legal services, and more.

Since 2007, this annual event has served over 2,000 people in Durham County, and event organizers expect an increase in people needing help this year as a reflection of the increase in need seen throughout the Durham community. Organizers are seeking 100 volunteers to serve as guest escorts to assist attendees during the event with navigating to needed services and supports available throughout the park. To volunteer, register as an "Event Volunteer" [online](#). The deadline for volunteer registration is Friday, September 25.

Durham residents and businesses are also asked to consider organizing a hygiene supply drive to support Project Homeless Connect. Hygiene supplies such as soap, lotion, disposable razors, shaving cream, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, lip balm, tissue packets, shampoo, and feminine hygiene products are needed. Donated supplies will be distributed to event guests at

the conclusion of the event. To organize a drive, register as a “Donor Sponsor” [online](#). The deadline for donation drives to be completed is also Friday, September 25.

For more information or questions about Durham’s event, contact Project Manager Matthew Schnars with the City’s Community Development Department at (919) 560-4570, ext. 22249 or by [email](#).

### **About the Community Development Department**

The City of Durham [Community Development Department](#) is responsible for coordinating the City’s housing resources and various housing assistance programs as well as promoting affordable housing by working with investors and community housing development organizations. The department also provides assistance with the abatement of lead in older homes and administers the City’s entitlement programs from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development. Guided by the City’s [Strategic Plan](#), the department helps to ensure that the City has thriving, livable neighborhoods by enhancing housing quality and affordability for Durham residents.

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